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Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar :—" May I request the hon. the Minister for Development to lay on the table the numbers and names of applicants for loans ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai :—" I regret I am unable to do so as there is a difference of opinion with regard to its desirability."

Mr. S. Muttayya Mudaliyar :—" I wish to know how many applications have been received."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai :—" I want notice."

Mr. S. Muttayya Mudaliyar :—" The question is already there."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai :—" The answer that could be given is also there already."

Mr. S. Muttayya Mudaliyar :—" Will the hon. the Minister be pleased to state whether the Board formed in December had no opportunity of functioning itself till the end of March ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai :—" It is not completely formed."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar :—" Will the application be placed before the Board of Industries now that it is constituted ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai :—" They will be forwarded as soon as it fully constituted."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar :—" May I know when it is likely to be completely constituted."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai :—" Replies as to consent have not yet been received from some members who have been communicated with."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar :—" Is it left to them, Sir, to determine the date also ? "

Mr. S. Muttayya Mudaliyar :—" Is not the grant of 8 lakhs liable to lapse if the Board does not meet before March end ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai :—" Of course."

Mr. S. Muttayya Mudaliyar :—" Is it likely that it will be restored ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai :—" The Budget is under consideration."

*The sugar industry.*

397 Q.—Mr. K. Sarabha Reddi : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he is aware of the leaderette in the *Hindu*, dated 31st December 1923, on the prospects of the sugar industry ;

(*b*) how many tons of refined sugar were imported last year into the Presidency ;

(*c*) why a large quantity of refined sugar was imported in spite of great facilities for sugarcane production ;

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(*d*) whether refined sugar cannot be produced from the sugarcane grown in the Kurnool district;

(*e*) whether the Government ever experimented;

(*f*) if so, with what results; and

(*g*) if the Government have not till now experimented, whether they will be pleased to do so now at least?

*A.*—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The total imports of refined sugar into this Presidency in 1922–23 were 20,788 tons, of which 9,474 tons were imported direct from foreign countries and 11,314 tons from other ports in India.

(*c*) *to* (*g*) The conditions essential to the successful establishment of a sugar refining industry in this country are stated in detail in the report of the Indian Sugar Committee to which the hon. Member is referred. Those conditions do not exist in the Kurnool district where, in 1921–22, the latest year for which figures are available, the total area under sugarcane was only 239 acres.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" In view of the importance of the sugar industry in this Presidency, may I ask the hon. the Minister for Development to consider the desirability of answering the questions (*e*), (*f*) and (*g*)? Some figures are given with regard to the conditions that are required but nothing is stated about any experiments that the Government themselves have made."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" I shall make enquiries."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" What is the area that would justify the establishment of a sugar refining industry? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" Some 6,000 acres."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Are there not other districts where there are compact areas of that extent? "

Mr. V. C. VELLINGIRI GOUNDER :—" In view of the importance of the industry, if suitable soil is not to be found, will the Government be pleased to consider the desirability of trying the experiment on a smaller scale? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" The question will be considered."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that more than six thousand acres are under sugar-cane cultivation in the Bellary district? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" It is a fact."

## Veterinary.

*Touring Veterinary Sub-Assistant Surgeons.*

398 *Q.*—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are willing to appoint more touring Veterinary Sub-Assistant Surgeons and establish more Veterinary hospitals or dispensaries in Nellore district; and